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MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1911.

No Occasion for Alarm.

There is no occasion for alarm be-
cause the Russian government expresses
its dissatisfaction with the action of
the American Congress concerning the
passport question. Russia is not going
to war with the United States because
we assert the fact that it has failed to
observe the provisions of a treaty which
guarantees security and protection to
American citizens. The United States
will not go to war with Russia, even
if that nation continues to dishonor
American passports. It is true that the
situation requires a combination of
sanity and patriotism, firmness and tact,
but the exercise of these qualities may
be expected in the President and in
Congress.

It needed, however, the unanimous
and emphatic expression of Congress to
bring Russia to a realizing sense of
public sentiment in this country. For
years and years the State Department
has appealed to Russia to cease its dis-
crimination against American citizens
on the ground of religion. These pro-
tests have been ignored and evaded.
The United States has been always
courteous and patient. Now that a firm
stand has been properly taken, Russia
hopes by an exhibition of bluster
and indignation to hide the vital facts.

The United States simply insists that
law-abiding, reputable citizens of the
United States, traveling with a pass-
port issued by this government, shall
be accorded the security, protection, and
freedom of action which the treaty with
Russia guarantees. It is entitled to this
consideration, and cannot, with due re-
spect, be satisfied with less. In this
case, every element of right is on its
side.

And Russia, when it fully appreciates
the high value which the American
people place upon their citizenship, will
not sacrifice the friendship of the United
States because we maintain that that
citizenship shall be respected, even in
the dominion of the czar.

About the first of this year the gentle
reader will not be so much about
Congressional bills as over others.

Economy in the House.

It is not surprising that Mr. Under-
wood, the Democratic leader in the
House, and Mr. Fitzgerald, the chair-
man of the Committee on Appropriations,
should be somewhat apprehensive over
the possibility of large expenditures.
Having passed a pension bill which,
if it becomes a law, will add about
\$20,000,000 to the government's
annual outlay, there is an insistent
demand upon the part of members of
the House for a public building bill,
which will require at least \$20,000,000
additional, to say nothing of a river
and harbor bill, which will aggregate even
a larger sum.

Although pledged to an exercise of
the strictest economy, the Democrats
will find it difficult to withstand the
temptation of an assault upon the pub-
lic Treasury. A campaign is approach-
ing, and nothing is so conducive to pop-
ularity in a Congressional district as
an appropriation for a new public build-
ing or for the improvement of some
commerce-seeking creek. In this re-
gard, the Republicans always have been
and are now happily situated. Without
any pretense to economy, they made
such appropriations as they deemed
proper. The Democrats, on the other
hand, have a mission to perform. They
must materially reduce the amount of
the annual budget, or else they will be
charged with recalcitancy to their solemn
promises. It is a difficult position for
them, especially with Congressional dis-
tricts hanging in the balance.

We submit, from the standpoint of
an impartial observer, that the Demo-
cratic majority can solve the problem
by making such appropriations as are
absolutely warranted by facts and con-
ditions. That new post-offices and other
public buildings are needed in some lo-
calities is undeniable, and money ap-
propriated for the purpose of their erec-
tion would be a wise and proper ex-
penditure. There are also river and
harbor improvements which are in every
way commendable. If these legitimate
projects can be provided for, eliminat-
ing all the undeserving claims, Con-
gress need make no apology to the
country. It is the "logrolling" measure,
framed as a political factor, which
is resented and criticized. The people

do not want economy practiced at the
expense of national development. They
object, however, to waste of public
funds in extravagant fashion.

There is vast difference between the
policy which would spend nothing and
that which, on the other hand, would
spend everything. If the Democrats can
find this happy medium, they need not
fear to make appropriations. It is not
the amount of money which is expended,
but the manner in which it is spent, that
reflects upon the party in power.

It has been a long while since a Demo-
cratic candidate for the Presidency nomi-
nated in Baltimore has been defeated.

Streets as Playgrounds.

An interesting experiment is being
tried in Chicago, which gives fair prom-
ise of solving the problem of play for
children in the crowded tenement dis-
tricts. In brief, it is proposed to use
portions of certain streets for play pur-
poses during specified hours of the day.
The games of the children to be under
the direction of responsible and capable
men and women, who will keep order
and give the sport its greatest physical
effectiveness.

Gault Court, an Italian quarter, in
the North Side of Chicago, and a block
in the Thirtieth street, in another part
of the city, are to be closed by police or-
der to traffic two hours in the afternoon
and set apart for play purposes. These
are called "play zones," and the project
has the approval of Mayor Harrison
and the city council. Miss Helen Cum-
mingsham, of Hull House, will have
charge of the experiment, and employed
helpers of the establishment will afford
the necessary supervision.

It is proposed to gather the children
of the neighborhood after school hours
in the afternoon in the streets men-
tioned, and there direct their play, much
as is done in the ordinary playgrounds.
Some portable apparatus will be put in
place for certain kinds of play, but for
the most part ordinary winter outdoor
games will be employed to amuse the
youngsters.

The experiment will be watched with
great interest outside of the city where
it is made. Closing portions of the
streets to public traffic for a portion
of the day may cause a little hardship
to drivers of delivery wagons and other
vehicles, but the authorities of Chicago
assume that this will be trifling as com-
pared with the hardship imposed upon
children with no place to play. More-
over, the use of the street involves no
outlay beyond the supervision of the
men and women who have direct charge
of the games. If successful, the plan
will be a practical solution of a social
question which has bothered settlement
workers for many years.

At least, the government clerk will
be given an opportunity to hear what
they are going to be punished for.

Aviation in 1911.

Even a cursory review of the progress
made in aviation during the year
1911 shows that substantial advance has
been made in the conquest of the air.
This year the aeroplane has been first
used in this country to carry mail. Its
first use in dropping projectiles, with
a view to possible employment in war,
belongs to the same period. It was in
1911 that Atwood made his world-fa-
mous trip from Boston to Washington,
and later from St. Louis to New York.
Rogers, another daring and persistent
aviator, flew across the continent from
New York to Los Angeles.

While there are a few of the more
striking achievements in the United
States, equal if not greater progress
has been made in Europe. Count Ze-
ppelin, after many failures, has at last
succeeded in bringing the dirigible air
ship to something like efficiency as an
engine of war or a means of carrying
passengers. Similar success appears to
have attended the efforts of Adjt. Reau,
of the French army, in developing a
dirigible air ship that will rise high
enough in the air to outrange the large-
est guns. While the achievements of
the Italians in the use of air ships is
somewhat uncertain, we read constantly
of their use with deadly effect in opera-
tions in Tripoli.

It is evident from these and many
more examples which might be cited
that the aeroplane and the dirigible air
ship have passed beyond the stage of
mere experiment into practical use with
some degree of efficiency.

Unfortunately, this measure of suc-
cess has not been achieved without a
long death toll and a chapter of acci-
dents truly appalling, but mistakes and
fatalities do not seem to dampen the
enthusiasm of courageous men who
have placed before themselves the mas-
tery of the air as the servant of man.
As time progresses, the element of safety
will certainly be increased.

As the steel stocks advance, Mr. Car-
negie feels more and more inclined to
advocate peace.

A Pennsylvania man who advertised for
a wife received so many applications
that he has determined to stay single.
Yet some people still believe that ad-
vertising does not pay.

Last accounts Mr. Shuster was hold-
ing on to that job with true American
tenacity.

Mr. Taft may console himself with the
thought that it is a pretty poor Presi-
dent who cannot stir up some opposition.

The Congressional Record would be
more of a financial success if all of its
advertising matter was paid for.

The House of Representatives intends to
be in a position to charge up any dis-
appointments to the Senate.

THE POLITICAL PROCESSION

Williamson is the name of a little
county seat town away down in the val-
leys but rich mining region of West
Virginia. Seldom has the town been
mentioned in Washington save in the
office of Senator Scott, Congressman Jim
Hughes, or the Post-office Department,
and then the mention generally meant
trouble or something wanted. Now comes
the agile and alert Jack Sheppard from
Williamson, asking that his beloved home
city be given a post-office building. Sen-
ator Scott, as chairman of the committee
that handed out such gifts, kindly be-
stowed a site, and no one blames Shep-
pard for coming with eager step to get a
building.

But it is regarded as odd that a public
building for Williamson should be a
magnet of sufficient strength to draw so
many Republican leaders of West Vir-
ginia to the National Capital. Here, for
instance, is the Hon. Zachary Taylor
Vinson, of Huntington, wonderfully im-
pressed with the awful distress that
would envelop Williamson if a new post-
office building were not quickly given.
Then the Hon. Isaac T. Mann ceased
entertaining his good neighbor, friend
George H. Smith, of Chillicothe, and hur-
ried here to learn about the need of a
building at Williamson.

A telegram was sent to Congressman
Jim Hughes, Senator Hatfield, urging
haste in their arrival lest the building
for Williamson could not be secured
at this session of Congress. Finally,
on the Saturday evening of last week, the
assurance that several altogether emi-
nent and powerful Republican leaders of
West Virginia would be here to back the
Williamson post-office project.

It may be the necessity of getting the
new building or it may be something
else which is bringing the West Virginia
leaders here. There is talk of reorganizing
the party in the State, and the West
Virginia Republicans who don't know
anything about Williamson are correspond-
ingly happy.

One lone Republican represents Indiana
in Congress—Crumpacker, of Valparaiso—and
he is almost in his sixteenth year of
service. Now that he has no Republican
Senator to aid in the political and patronage
struggle, it is any wonder that the
Crumpacker soul is sometimes vexed and
settling down to work for the bettering
up of the administration cause in In-
diana, what should come along but the
John C. Schaeffer string of papers, press-
ing Albert J. Beveridge for President.
Possibly not much was thought of them
in Washington, but those from Indiana
who know something of the Schaeffer
zeal and pertinacity, not mentioning his
cash and the aid of the State, and are a
bit anxious. Something unusual has
been expected from the Beveridge
circle, but a reaching out for Presi-
dential honors, even hardly as a friendly
courtesy, because permission was refused
him to take with him his morganatic
wife—the Duchess of Hohenberg—who, he
insisted, should be by his side. One was
the coronation of King George of Great
Britain and the other a visit of state to
the Belgium King. Both times the pre-
sumptive, Archduke Karl Franz Josef,
was ordered, as a consequence, to re-
present the aged Emperor of Austria.

Several members of the Republican
National Committee went from Wash-
ington to New York very soon after the
committee had adjourned. Three pil-
grims to Gotham hastened to have
talks with Col. Roosevelt. One sprightly
committee member who had a long
breakfast with Col. Roosevelt at the
Republican Club was Sidney Arthur
Perkins, of Washington State, and Sid-
ney Arthur was quite eager to tell of his
interview. According to Mr. Perkins, the
hitherto explicit remarks of Roosevelt
insisting that he was not and would not
be a candidate for President were very
emphatically repeated with the post-
script that he knew of no stronger lan-
guage that could express his intentions.
Perkins, or even the most ardent of his
followers, has been duplicated by other
members of the committee who sought
out the former President in New York.

Col. W. F. Cody, best known as Buf-
falo Bill, came from Arizona last
week and indicated his diplomacy by
leaving before election day, and then
by making no comment on the result,
which he learned on arrival. It happens
that Col. Cody has business interests
throughout the West, and he is not in-
clined to mix up in political scraps. It has not been so
very many years since there was talk
in one of the Western States of sending
Buffalo Bill to Congress, but he modestly
declined, preferring to continue his
thrilling amusement stunts rather than
dash his back into the Senate. This report
came with almost every candidate on
both tickets.

Speaking of the Arizona result and the
assurance that Mark Smith is to be a
Senator, several ardent Democrats of
Kentucky have suggested that as Mark
is from Kentucky he will be fitting to
give him an old-Kentucky-home sort of
reveling and a good end-of when he
comes to take his seat.

Thomas Kearns, who served a term in
the Senate from Utah a few years back,
looked in on the scene of his former ac-
tivities last week without expressing any
regret that he was a private citizen.
Kearns was chosen as a Republican, and
kept in the Republican procession with
undragging step throughout his Senatorial
service.

"Oh, I have been out of politics in re-
cent years," responded Kearns when ask-
ed about political atmosphere of to-day.
"I do not say that I have exactly lost
interest even if I am a private citizen,
and if there is any need of activity on
my part, I will respond. To this sentiment
the President is going to go back to Presi-
dent Taft. That suits me, and if the present
conditions in favor of the President continue,
I see no reason for me to chip in. However,
if there is a movement toward Roosevelt, I will
be busy, and there are others who will be
no less eager to uphold the administration.
The recent action of the National Com-
mittee would seem to indicate that the
President is very popular. Well, thank
you, and will continue doing well as the
campaign for his re-nomination and re-
election progresses."

OF INTEREST IN WASHINGTON.

Attorney General Wickersham is back
at his desk after that attack of acute
indigestion. He must learn to beware of
those hastily eaten Washington lunch-
eons.

Secretary of War Stimson reports that
we are not prepared for war, but if it
causes no more anxiety to Mr. Stimson
than to the average American taxpayer
and consumer, he will not lose any seri-
ous amount of sleep.

The Washington correspondents have
worked up quite a fierce war between
Hitchcock and Hillel. It affords variation
from the Wilson resignation rumor.

Romania vs. Fiction.
When a very rich man marries a very
poor girl, that's romance. When a very
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A LITTLE NONSENSE.

AN OLD STORY.
The janitor is pleasant now.
The bellboy grins;
The barber makes his finest bow
As you come in.
The waiter glides behind the chair.
On every side
You meet with timely loving care
At Christmas.
The porter piles a busy whisk
On unseen dirt.
The messengers are always brisk
And never curt.
Politeness is with each and rule;
Your every whim
Is met by one who hopes that you'll
Remember him.

Uncle Pecuniwise Says:
I don't want to see none of the boys
around scouting around the stage en-
trance.

A Modern Girl.
"Why did you turn him down?"
"He began to yawn about two living as
cheaply as one. When I get married I
expect to make the money fly."

Quite a Game.
"I have found something to live for,
something to fill my life, something to
occupy every waking moment."
"Yes, I know—bridge. It is a fascinat-
ing game."

Forbidden the House.
The urchins now are told to go
Each day outside to play;
An indication, as they know,
Of presents put away.

An Old-fashioned Woman.
"Why did you get a divorce from your
husband?"
"Well, I didn't have the heart to feed
him evanile, although I notice a good
many ladies are going in for that now."

He Cautions Her.
"The children's presents have taken a
lot of money, hubby. I'll have to buy
you something cheap."
"In that case, I prefer a necktie to
cigars."

Official Courtesy.
"Keep a sharp lookout, boys," said
the building inspector.
"Yes, sir."
"And if a stout gentleman comes in
and wants a permit to go down chim-
neys, don't charge him anything for it."

GOSSIP OF AUSTRIAN COURT

Twice during the current year the help
apparent to the dual throne of Austria-
Hungary, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, has
declined to represent Emperor Franz
Josef at state occasions at friendly
courts, because permission was refused
him to take with him his morganatic
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CURIOUS BITS OF HISTORY.

By A. W. MACY.

THE CAPTURE OF ST. JOSEPH, MICH.

At the outbreak of the Revolu-
tionary war St. Joseph, Mich., was
in the hands of the British. It
was then a mere trading post,
and they used it as a depot of
supplies and as a rallying point
for their Indian allies. In the
autumn of 1777 Tom Brady and
sixteen other resolute residents
of Cahokia, Ill., set out to cap-
ture the post. It was garrisoned
by twenty-one soldiers, but they
were surprised by night and sur-
rendered without a fight. The
victors gathered up the stock of
provisions, clothing, etc., and
started homeward. They were
pursued by a party of 300 British
and Indians, who overtook them
on the banks of the Calumet River,
near Chicago. A battle ensued,
in which two of Brady's
men were killed, two wounded,
twelve taken prisoners, and one
escaped. Next spring a party of
65 Cahokians, about 200 Indians,
and a few Spaniards recaptured
the post. On account of the
Spaniards being in the party the
government of Spain set up a
ridiculous claim to that part of
the country, and for a time St.
Joseph threatened to become an
international bone of contention.
(Copyright, 1911, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

NEW YORK SUN
CHANGES OWNERSWilliam C. Reick Obtains
Control of the Paper.

From the New York Evening Post.
William C. Reick, who for years was
James Gordon Bennett's right-hand man
in running the New York Herald, has
bought control of the Sun.

Purchase of the majority stock was
made by Reick from Mrs. William M.
Laffan. Reick is now a minority share-
holder of the New York Times, control of
which is in the hands of Adolph S. Ochs.
Reick was born in Philadelphia on Sep-
tember 29, 1861, and studied for a while
at Harvard and the United States Naval
Academy. He began newspaper work in
Philadelphia. Later he worked on a news-
paper in Newark, N. J., and was sub-
sequent correspondent for the Herald.

His enterprising reporting attracted
Bennett's attention, and he was taken
into the Herald office. For a time he
edited the London and Paris editions of
the paper, and in 1888 he was made city
editor in New York. He afterward be-
came president of the New York Herald
Company and general manager of its af-
fairs under Bennett's direction. In 1907
he left the Herald and acquired an in-
terest in the Times and Philadelphia Pub-
lic Ledger, controlled by the Ochs broth-
ers. He is second vice president and gen-
eral manager of the New York Times
Company, and president of the Public
Ledger Company.

Charles A. Dana, who controlled the
destinies of the Sun from his acquisition
of it in 1866 until his death in 1897, ranked
with the great American editors. With
a handful of men like Franklin, Greeley,
the elder Bennett, and Pulitzer, he ex-
erted a dominant country-wide influence
upon his profession. His methods, and
entirely different from those of all the
others, even his contemporaries, and, to
be sure, in this fact lay the reason for
his greatness. Perhaps nothing better
illustrates his own particular idea of the
kind of journalism than his direct dis-
vergence from Horace Greeley upon one
particular point.

Greeley, it will be recalled, was always
opposed to the college man. He said he
would not have a college man for janitor.
On the other hand, Dana was always
watching the universities for young men
who knew a past participle from a split
infinitive. The roster of Sun men gen-
erally has shown that about 75 per cent
of them were college graduates. But a
man did not have to be able to show a
diploma from Yale or Harvard or any
other seat of learning to get a chance
to edit a newspaper. Dana's method, and
grip on English—and after that nothing
mattered, so long as he was honest.

When Mr. Dana died in 1897, his son,
Paul Dana, served as editor for a short
time, but the elder Dana's real successor
was Edward P. Mitchell, who had grown
up in the atmosphere of the institution
and whom for many years previous to
1897 had been the paper's chief editorial
writer. Mr. Mitchell is now president of
the Sun Association.

Laffan, from whom control has been
purchased, was formerly the Sun's ar-
tistic. He subsequently became the pub-
lisher, and in 1900 purchased the paper
from the Dana estate.

THANKS DUE THE HERALD.

Editor The Washington Herald.
I hasten to extend to you the thanks of
the officers of the American Civic Asso-
ciation for the very generous and excel-
lent reports you have given us of the
work of the convention of the
American Civic Association. We feel
that you have appreciated the direct
value that our convention may be to
Washington in arousing a larger appre-
ciation of the beauties of the city and a
consequent increased activity for its
further beautification, by devoting so much
space and favorable attention to our
meeting.
RICHARD R. WATKINS,
Secretary American Civic Association,
Washington, December 16.

Editor The Washington Herald.
I note with much pleasure your edi-
torial in this morning's paper headed
"Party Platforms."

I earnestly desire Democratic party suc-
cess, and am struggling the best I know
how to get it.

I thank you sincerely for your favor-
able editorial.
GEORGE F. BURGESS,
House of Representatives, Washington, Dec. 16.

Pinchot Arrives Late.
From the Mazon (Ga.) News.
Clifford Pinchot wants to form a new
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STATESMEN, REAL AND NEAR.

By FRED C. KELLY.

William E. Chilton, Senator from West
Virginia, has the queerest fad on re-
cord.

It is giving away pocket knives.
Where other men would hand out a
cigar, or suggest buying a drink, Chil-
ton presents a handsome stag-horned
knife containing three blades, button
hook, nail file, and cork screw.

In 11—last several years he has given
away almost 7,000 knives. He calls it
an amusing party of 100 British
and Indians, who overtook them
on the banks of the Calumet River